# United States Department of Agriculture Research, Education, and Economics

# ARS □ ERS □ NASS □ NIFA

## Bulletin

**Title:** Payment Process for Lease and Other Real Estate Agreements

**Number:** 16-165.0-ARS

**Date:** May 25, 2016

**Expiration:** April 25, 2018

**Originating Office:** Facilities Division

This Replaces: N/A

**Distribution:** Area Directors, Locations, Administrative and

Financial Management

This issuance is being created to establish a formal process to administer real estate agreements and the payment of rent and services.

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### **Purpose**

This issuance is being published to assist real estate professionals and those involved with payment of consideration and fees associated with real estate agreements and direct leases through the National Finance Center, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, Agricultural Research Service Operations Section (ARSOPS). ARSOPS has a service level agreement with ARS for the processing and disbursement of such payments via electronic fund transfer (EFT) or check.

## **Background**

This issuance is to provide formal guidance to identify the responsibilities and basic procedures to ensure leases, realty agreements and services are periodically reviewed within the Corporate Property Automated Information System. This Bulletin also provides guidance to consistently process payments associated with such real estate contracts.

### **Policy**

It is Agricultural Research Service (ARS) policy that RPLOs request payment for real estate agreements, services associated with such agreements and leases entered into under the Department of Agriculture's (USDA) delegated leasing authority from the General Services Administration (GSA).

## Responsibilities

The following staff or their designee will perform the functions listed.

## Administrative Officers (AOs) or Program Support Assistants

• Prepare an *AD-700*, Procurement Request, for the commitment of funds associated with real estate agreements (e.g., payment of rent and/or services). Ensures the *AD-700*, *Procurement Request (AD-700)*, is complete and reflects the associated real estate agreement reference (e.g., Agreement Number, Lease Number, License Number, etc.) along with proper: "Budget Object", "Acc Line", "Quantity", "Unit Price", "Amount", "Seller", "Accounting Classification and Vendor ID Code.

(**NOTE:** The *AD-700* will state the following for services related payments if such payments are only due upon being invoiced "*No payment until invoice submitted*." and include the period of performance or term.

- Create an Administrative and Financial Management Customer Service Portal (AFMCSP) Ticket, attaching the corresponding *AD-700*, and submit these to the RPLO for a real estate agreement or services. The AFMCSP Ticket should be saved under the "Realty" function.
- Forward invoices for services to the RPLO to ensure payments are made in accordance with Departmental policy and procurement regulations. The associated real estate agreement number should be clearly identified on the invoice or inserted.
- Obtain and review Transaction Detail Listings and an Unliquidated Obligations Reports from the Budget and Fiscal Officer (BFO) or his/her staff, identifying any issues with regards to real estate agreements to the RPLO.

#### **Business Service Center Travel Specialists will:**

- Pull and accept the Portal Ticket, with Vendor Request Form attached, for processing and establishing the Vendor ID.
- Create a "PVND" request within the Department's Financial Management Modernization Initiative (FMMI) financial system for a new "Vend Code" to be assigned.
- Establish Vendors in the Vendor Record Table within FMMI according to established procedures.
- Provide RPLO with "Vendor ID Code" from FMMI.

#### **Business Service Center Real Property Leasing Officers will:**

- Review/maintain CPAIS lease data for their respective Areas and taking action to ensure lease numbers, dates, renewal options, etc. are accurate and up-to-date.
- Complete a "Vend Table Request Form" to request a Lessor be established as a Vendor within FMMI.
- Create an AFMCSP Ticket and attach the Vend Table Request Form before submitting for processing by the Business Service Center Travel Specialist. The ticket should be saved under the "Travel" function.
- Pull and accept the AFMCSP Ticket for Lease or Services Payments/Annual Renewals, reviewing the corresponding *AD-700*. The *AD-700* should identify the Vendor ID, reflect the period covered (lease term or period of performance for services) and the terms of payment (e.g., if quarterly payments are due, the "Quantity" field would be populated with "4"). **Unless otherwise stated in the real estate agreement and on the** *AD-700***, rent and services payments will be made in arrears.**
- Submitting the *AD-700* and a scan of the realty agreement or lease as early as possible to allow for establishing payment schedules through ARSOPS. The *AD-700* should reflect the period covered (lease term or period of performance for services) and the terms of payment (e.g., if quarterly payments are due, the "Quantity" field would be populated with "4"). **Unless otherwise stated in the real estate agreement and on the** *AD-700* **will be made in arrears.**
- Scan and submit the real estate agreement (e.g., Lease or Invoice for Services) and corresponding *AD-700* via email to NFC at <u>ARSOPS@nfc.usda.gov</u>. (**NOTE:** ARSOPS will enter payment information and process payments for disbursement by Treasury. For leases that indicate nominal consideration, receipt of which has been acknowledged, if there are **no** payments to be processed by ARSOPS, then neither a copy of the lease, nor an *AD-700* is submitted to ARSOPS. Subsequently, if a lease requires an initial consideration of a nominal amount to be paid, then the lease and *AD-700* for the initial term is submitted to ARS; however,

the AD-700 should clearly state, "Payment of initial term in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_ with no further consideration due for any renewal option exercised."

- Obtain a FMMI Purchase Order Number for lease, services, etc. payments from ARSOPS once the action is processed in FMMI. (**NOTE:** RPLOs should keep in mind that Treasury handles disbursement between five 30 days from the date ARSOPS receives the invoice from the RPLO. This is assuming that the vendor record indicates that the vendor is subject to the 30-day prompt pay.)
- Provide ARSOPS with a copy of each lease termination notification, annual renewal notification, notification of lease holdover, and written communication identifying expiration where not further lease payments are to be made after the final lease payment.
- Coordinate non-payment issues, if/when they arise until resolved.
- Coordinate with ARSOPs to ensure realty agreement information, including Vendor information, is up-to-date.

#### References/Authorities

United States Code 3901 et. seq., Prompt Payment Act
USDA Real Property Leasing Handbook, December 1, 2010
USDA Office of the Chief Financial Officer Budget Object Classification Codes, May 2013
165.0 Real Property Leasing Officer and Lease Delegations of Authority, as amended

#### **Definitions**

American Bankers Association Routing Transit Number (also referred to as either an ABA Number or Routing Number) is a nine digit code, used in the United States, usually appearing on the bottom of negotiable instruments (e.g., checks) to identify an entity's financial institution to which deposits are made or upon which withdrawals are made.

**Seller or Recommended Source**, as listed on the *AD-700* is used synonymously with Lessor, Vendor or Grantor.

#### **ACRONYMNS**

ABA - American Bankers Association

AFMCSP - Administrative and Financial Management Customer Service Portal

AOs - Administrative Officers

ARSOPS - ARS Operations Section (at NFC)

EFT - Electronic Fund Transfer

FMMI - Financial Management Modernization Initiative

G-REX - General Services Administration's Real Estate Exchange System

GSA - General Services Administration
RPLOs - Real Property Leasing Officers
SAMs - System for Award Management

USDA - United States Department of Agriculture

Click here to enter text.

Enter Date. May 25, 2016

NINO L. FLERI

Director

**Facilities Division** 

#### **Exhibits**

Example Exhibits are reflected for guidance purposes only.

Exhibit 1, Email to ARS-OPS to set up a lease file for payment(s)

Exhibit 2, Procurement Request for quarterly lease payments

Exhibit 3, Procurement Request for quarterly services payments

Exhibit 4. FMMI Vendor Interim PVND Form Version 1.1

#### [Real Property Leasing Officer's Name]

From: [Real Property Leasing Officer] Sent: Friday, April 22, 2017 9:56 AM

To: AROPS@nfc.usda.gov

Cc: [Insert Administrative Officer]

Subject: New [Insert Area Abbreviation] Lease Number 57-XXXX-XX-XXXX

#### ARSOPS:

Attached is a fully-executed lease agreement and AD-700 for the above-referenced lease. This new lease supersedes Lease Number XX-XXXX-XXXX which was negotiated with the same Vendor/Lessor.

In addition, this lease includes services. A second AD-700 for services, payable upon receipt of invoice, is also attached.

Upon setting up this lease for payment, would it be possible to have the inputter provide me with a Purchase Order Number?

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me. In advance, thank you.

[Insert Name], Real Property Leasing Officer [Insert Address] Phone: XXX-XXX-XXXX

2 Attachments: Lease Agreement AD-700

Exhibit 1

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(**NOTE:** *AD-700*s should have notation, subject to the availability of funds and passage of an Appropriation by Congress if provided by the AO prior to the Agency receiving funding.)

#### Exhibit 2

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Exhibit 3

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Requestor Name Judy Adams												
	Self Tracking Reference Number											
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Requestor Phone 301-504-1222 Agency USDA, ARS, Beltsville, MD							Request Da	te	05/05/2	2016		
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ALC Comments	(Require	ed for Feder	rai Ve	ndors)								

**NOTE:** If a Vendor's address or banking information requires changing, the Vendor must first make such edits in the System for Award Management (SAMs) database. Exhibit 4 (Page 1 of 2)

Requestor Name	Place the name of the person submitting the request
Self Tracking	We recommend you number your requests and track them. We will reference this number
Reference	on the e-mail notification upon completion of your request. We will not send any PII
Number	(Personally Identifiable Information) via the internet.
Requestor E-mail	We will send an e-mail notification upon completion of requests. It is very important that w
	be able to send the new Vendor code to you. The vendor codes in FMMI do not contain the
	SSN/TIN in their construct.
Requestor Phone	As a backup to e-mail communications please include your phone number. Please include
	extension.
Request Date	Enter the date of your request.
Agency	Enter the agency requesting the change or add. Normally this will be your agency, unless
	you are cross servicing.
Action Requested	<ol> <li>Add check add if this is a new record.</li> </ol>
	<ol><li>Change check change if you are modifying and existing FMMI vendor. Be sure to</li></ol>
	provide the Vendor Code in the Vendor Code field.
	3. Block this is the equivalent of inactivating a vendor. Be sure to provide the Vendor
	Code in the Vendor Code field.
Vendor Code	Only fill this out with the FMMI Vendor code for existing records. DO NOT ENTER AN OLD
	FFIS VENDOR CODE HERE. You need to fill this out for changes and blocks.
GovTrip Pseudo	For employees and non-employee travelers. We will adjust the Pseudo to GovTrip when
	needed.
Vendor Account	Check the appropriate account group.
Groups	
Vendor Name	Vendors Legal Name will be used to TIN match with the IRS
DBA Name	Doing Business As
Street Address 1	First line of address
Street Address 2	Second line of address
Zip	Note ZIP code is before city in FMMI. FMMI is based on SAP a German company. The
	equivalent field to ZIP in Europe is placed before City. We will need to get used to this
City	City
State	Enter the two digit postal state abbreviation.
Vendor Contact	Enter the name of the point of contact with the vendor.
Name	
Vendor Contact	Enter the phone number of the point of contact with the vendor.
Number	
SSN	Enter the SSN for the vendor
TIN	Enter the TIN for the vendor.
Industry	Check the appropriate Industry, only required if the ZNFV Account Group is checked.
Bank Name	Optional but include if you know it.
Routing number	Enter the bank routing number
Bank Account	Check either Savings or Checking
Type	
Waiver Code	Check the appropriate waiver code when banking is not present.
ALC	Eight digit ALC code only required for Federal Vendors.

Exhibit 4 (Page 2 of 2)